

FORT CAMPBELL ENVIRONMENTAL HANDBOOK
Guidance and Instruction
STRIPPING WAX OFF OF ASBESTOS CONTAINING FLOOR TILE

1. **Purpose and Scope:**

This instruction on removing floor wax from asbestos containing floor tile, is to provide guidance for proper work practices to reduce the risk of asbestos exposure.

2. **References:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

3. **Definitions:**

Asbestos Containing Material (ACM): ACM, in this case floor tile, is that which contains more than one percent asbestos.

4. **General:**

Providing that the asbestos containing floor tile is in good condition, stripping of wax may be initiated. If the asbestos containing floor tile is not in good condition, then stripping the wax should not be initiated. Good condition generally means that the floor tile is pliable, not broken, and not badly worn.

5. **Responsibilities:**

The EQO is responsible for ensuring that building managers have appropriate guidance available for stripping asbestos containing flooring.

6. **Instruction:**

The EPA has given guidance on stripping floor tile which is summarized below.

- a. Strip wax as little as possible, once or twice a year.
- b. Keep floor tile wet during stripping of wax.
- c. Buffer use should be slow revolutions per minute (rpm), 175 to 190 rpm.
- d. Use the least abrasive pad possible.
- e. Do not overstrip.

7. **Additional Guidance:**

- a. For additional guidance and information, and answers to your questions, contact Environmental Division, 798-9637 / 9597.
- b. For future reference, place this document behind *Tab number 2* in your Fort Campbell Environmental Handbook.